

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01095 291041Z

22

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /026 W  
----- 063263

R 291010Z APR 76  
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4368

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1095

STADIS////////////////////////////////

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR AG  
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN ATTITUDES AS REPORTED BY JOSEPH KRAFT

1. COLUMNIST JOSEPH KRAFT VISITED ALGIERS APRIL 15-24 IN CONNECTION WITH PIECE HE IS DOING FOR NEW YORKER. WAS RECEIVED BY NUMBER LEADING ALGERIANS, INCLUDING BOUMEDIENE, MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY ABDESSELAM AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE YAKER. HE CAME WITH SEVERAL IDEAS IN MIND WHICH HE WISHED TO PRUSUE. ONE OF THEM WAS THAT ALGERIA HAD BECOME INCREASINGLY ACTIVE IN THIRD WORLD BECAUSE REVOLUTION WAS FALTERING. ANOTHER WAS THAT ALGERIA HAD BEEN ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN OPEC KIDNAPPING, WHICH IT SAW AS MEANS PUTTING PRESSURE ON LESS RADICAL MEMBERS THAT ORGANIZATION.

2. WE WISH TO FLAG TWO ASPECTS HIS CONVERSATION WITH ABDESSELAM. FIRST, HE FOUND ABDESSELAM IN ANTI-AMERICAN MOOD, COMPLAINING ABOUT U.S. SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO IN SAHARA CONTEST IN SPITE MODERATE ROLE ALGERIANS HAD PLAYED IN CIEC AND MIDDLE EAST, AND IN SPITE ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF BUSINESS THROWN OUR WAY. ABDESSELAM SAID AT ONE POINT LEAST WE COULD DO WAS TO MAKE PRONOUNCEMENT IN SUPPORT PRESENT DEMARCATION LINE AS FINAL BORDER BETWEEN MOROCCO AND ALGERIA. THIS IS FIRST TIME, TO OUR RECOLLECTION, IDEA OF SUCH A DECLARATION HAS SURFACED. IMAGINE ABDESSELAM WAS SPEAKING OFF THE CUFF, BUT HIS REMARK IS WORTH NOTING  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ALGIER 01095 291041Z

AS REFLECTION LOCAL CONCERNS, INFORMED OR OTHERWISE, THAT WE

MAY SUPPORT MOROCCAN DESIGNS ON ALGERIAN TERRITORY.

3. SECOND, HE ASKED ABDESSELAM IF ALGERIANS CONNECTED WITH OPEC KIDNAPPING. ABDESSELAM REPLIED TO EFFECT THAT ANYONE WHO WITNESSED EFFORTS ALGERIANS MADE AND PROBLEMS THEY HAD SAVING LIVES WOULD KNOW THAT THEY COULD NOT HAVE HAD ANY ROLE IN AFFAIR, EVEN THOUGH CERTAIN UNSPECIFIED ALGERIAN "GROUPS" MIGHT HAVE BEEN SYMPATHETIC TO OPERATION. KRAFT SAYS HE STRUCK BY FACT THIS WAS ONLY PARTIAL DENIAL BY ABDESSELAM AND IS PERSUADED THAT ALGERIANS WERE INVOLVED. WE HAVE TOLD HIM WE THINK THAT HIGHLY UNLIKELY, AND SO HAVE NUMBER OF WELL-INFORMED ALGERIANS. HE OBVIOUSLY HAS HIS MIND SET ON HIS HYPOTHESIS, HOWEVER, PERHAPS RELYING ON INFORMATION GIVEN TO HIM BY PERSONS OUTSIDE ALGERIA (THE MOROCCANS?) AND WHICH HE THINKS IS RELIABLE. WE PRESUME HE WILL WRITE ACCORDINGLY. PARKER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 APR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** izenbei0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ALGIER01095  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D760162-0999  
**From:** ALGIERS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760410/aaaaahzn.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** STADIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** STADIS <MCM 20040518 ADD HANDLING>; STADIS, EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** izenbei0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CHANGED> MCM 20040518  
**Subject:** ALGERIAN ATTITUDES AS REPORTED BY JOSEPH KRAFT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, AG, (KRAFT, JOSEPH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006